

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith, which place the application into condition for allowance. The present amendment is being made to facilitate prosecution of the application.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

New claims 13-24 are pending. Claims 13 and 19 are independent. Claims 1-12 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. Support for new claims 13-24 is provided throughout the Specification and specifically paragraphs [0073], [0083]-[0092] and Figures 9 and 10.

No new matter has been introduced. Changes to the claims are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled.

II. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102(b) AND 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Previous claims 1, 4 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly anticipated by GB 2,329,997 to Yoshizumi Mano (hereinafter, merely “Mano”). Previous claims 2, 3, 5, 6 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Mano.

III. RESPONSE TO REJECTIONS

New claim 13 recites, *inter alia*:

“A video recording/reproducing apparatus... comprising:

means for recording video signals and identifying signals indicating the content of the video signals, into a recording medium;

means for generating a title list of videos recorded in the recording medium using said identifying signals;

means for receiving a user indication of sorting the video titles;

means for sorting the titles in the title list in response to a received user indication;

means for providing the sorted title list to the user; and

means for reproducing one or more videos in the sorted title list. (emphasis added)

Applicants respectfully submit that the present invention, as claimed in new claims 13-24, is directed to sorting titles of recorded programs to provide a customized playback list. Indeed, new claim 13 specifically recites means for generating a title list of videos, means for receiving a user indication of sorting the video titles, means for providing the sorted title list to the user and means for reproducing one or more videos in the sorted title list.

Applicants submit that Mano fails to teach or suggest the above-identified features of new claim 13. More specifically, Applicants submit that Mano does not anticipate, nor render obvious, the recited means for generating a title list, means for receiving a user indication of sorting the video titles, means for sorting the titles or means for providing the sorted title list to the user. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that Mano does not render claim 13 unpatentable.

New claim 19 is similar, or somewhat similar, in scope to claim 13, and is therefore patentable for similar, or somewhat similar, reasons.

Therefore, Applicants submit that independent claims 13 and 19 are patentable.

IV. DEPENDENT CLAIMS

The other claims in this application are each dependent from one of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore patentable for at least the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

More particularly, new claim 14 further defines the sorting means to sort the video titles according to date, title, classification or recording. Applicants submit that Mano does not teach or suggest this feature. New claim 20 is a corresponding method claim.

New claim 15 further recites that the sorting means sorts the titles of the recorded video. Applicants submit that Mano does not teach or suggest this feature. New claim 21 is a corresponding method claim.

CONCLUSION


In the event the Examiner disagrees with any of statements appearing above with respect to the disclosure in the cited references, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate those portions of the references providing the basis for a contrary view.

Please charge any additional fees that may be needed, and credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

Applicants respectfully submit that all of the claims are in condition for allowance and request early passage to issue of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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